

Tactical Team and as Commander of the Abington Police K9 Unit. Lt. Hasson was also instrumental in starting the Abington Police Community Policing Division.

In addition to serving the people of Abington, Peter Hasson served his country on active duty in the United States Marine Corps, serving in Vietnam and receiving the Purple Heart.

It is a privilege to honor the contributions of Lt. Peter Hasson to the Abington Township Police in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His dedication and service is appreciated by all those whose lives he has touched.

HONORING SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the sesquicentennial of Saint Joseph's University, a liberal arts university that has been striving for excellence and balance in its academic programs since 1851. For working within the framework of the Jesuit tradition of service to others for 150 years, St. Joseph's University should be commended for its commitment and dedication.

Originally established at Saint Joseph's Church on Willing's Alley in Philadelphia, one block from Independence Hall, the University has moved to several locations within the city as it has grown, including 17th and Stiles Streets, where Saint Joseph's Preparatory School is still located. Saint Joseph's College moved to its present location on City Avenue in the Overbrook section of Philadelphia in 1927. It was recognized as a university in 1978.

Saint Joseph's University is a proud member of the Big 5 and the Atlantic 10 conference. Its sustained commitment to ever-rising SAT test scores of incoming freshmen. The University is ranked #10 among all regional colleges and universities in the northeast quadrant of the nation by U.S. News & World Report. The school's academic excellence is reflected in the ever-growing number of undergraduate applications received each year.

More than 36,000 active alumni from all walks of life are proud to call Saint Joseph's University their alma mater. By providing high-quality education, the University contributes to the intellectual and economic infrastructure of the city, the commonwealth, and the nation.

With a 150 year tradition of academic excellence, the University remains dedicated to its founding principle: that a liberal arts based education teaches disciplined reasoning, effective communication, and a love of learning. It is this philosophy that has brought the university so much success and I wish to recognize its commitment to society and the community. I offer my best wishes to St. Joseph's University for all its future endeavor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 572 and 573 I was unable to be present. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both.

A TRIBUTE TO LOS ANGELES POLICE OFFICER LOUIE VILLALOBOS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a law enforcement officer who has fallen in the line of duty.

Police officers undertake a solemn oath to protect and serve their fellow citizens and if necessary, sacrifice their lives to fulfill this duty. Los Angeles Police Officer Louie Villalobos has paid the ultimate price for the preservation of public safety and civility in the cities of my district.

When honoring the memory of Officer Villalobos, I can say that he was truly a hero, some who was selfless and always giving to others. Without trepidation, he confronted the dangers inherent in his line of work and ultimately gave his life while serving our community. Moreover, he carried out his duties each day with courage and honor. His commitment and courage will serve as an inspiration for all of us.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring officer Louis Villalobos of the Los Angeles Police Department. He gave his life to protect the residents of our community, doing so with extraordinary courage, valor and honor.

IN HONOR OF CELIA CRUZ, THE QUEEN OF SALSA

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Celia Cruz, "the queen of salsa," one of the greatest singers of salsa music, who has entertained audiences around the world for five decades.

Celia Cruz has mesmerized audiences for five decades with her exceptional singing talent and her wonderful charisma. She has been one of the single greatest influences on salsa music, recording more than 70 albums, and receiving more than 100 awards, which included a Grammy in 1989 following twelve nominations. In addition, she has been honored with stars and street sections in some of the world's most visited avenues, such as the Walk of Fame in Hollywood and the Calle Ocho in Miami. Celia has also received honorary degrees from Yale, Florida International University, and the University of Miami.

Celia began her illustrious career in Cuba in the late 1940s, and joined the legendary group

La Sonora Matancera in the early 1950s. After several successful recordings, the group's music was in demand beyond the borders of Cuba.

In 1960, Celia left Cuba for the United States, where her career blossomed and where she became a household name. During her first decade in the United States, she recorded several albums with the great Tito Fuente, and together they captured the hearts of nontraditional fans of salsa, a phenomenon known as "the Salsa of the 70s." Celia has also collaborated with other great Latin artists, including Johnny Pacheco, Willy Colon, and la Fania All Stars, as well as great American artists, such as Dionne Warwick, Patti Labelle, David Byrne, Gloria Estefan, and Wyclef Jean.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Celia Cruz—a great artist and entertainer, and a salsa icon.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. BRYANT, HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT GENERAL MANAGER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, in California's High Desert, water is one of the most valuable commodities, and the people who obtain and distribute this precious liquid are among the hardest working public servants in the 40th Congressional District. I would like today to offer a salute to an exemplary public servant who had spent years ensuring water is delivered in a dry place: Charles E. Bryant, general manager of the Hi-Desert Water District, which serves 25,000 people in Yucca Valley, California.

Mr. Bryant came to the Hi-Desert Water District in 1992 after serving as city administrator for the City of Hawaiian Gardens, California and a member of the board of directors of the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District for 10 years. His extensive background prepared him to help run a far-flung but growing water district, but no amount of experience could prepare him for what happened within two weeks of his arrival. The Landers Earthquake, a massive 7.4 on the Richter Scale, damaged 40 percent of the district's 274 miles of pipelines. Working around the clock, Mr. Bryant and the dedicated staff of the district had everything repaired and working within two weeks.

Under Chuck Bryant's leadership, the district has joined with the Mojave Water Agency to build and operate the Morongo Basin Pipeline and the Hi-Desert Pipeline Extension and a 5 million-gallon reservoir that brings the area's residents water from the California Aqueduct. Working with my office, the district has joined the Bureau of Reclamation's Title 16 Program, and could qualify for \$12 million in grants for wastewater treatment facilities. The district has also sought and received other grants for wastewater facility construction and for removal of nitrates from local water.

Looking ahead to the future, Mr. Bryant oversaw creation of an "in-house capital replacement program" to replace and modernize the district's delivery system over 12 years. Other efficiency measures have improved customer service and placed the district on its most stable financial foundation.